(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The balloon launching carried out in the early morning of 16th April 1994 was meant to test and qualify the payload operating at very low (cryogenic) temperatures and carry out laboratory analysis of air samples so collected. The measurements are to provide the concentration profiles of a large number of trace constituents over the Indian region.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. With the launching of the cryosampler payload, India has become one of the very few countries in the world to develop and successfully launch this experiment. The results obtained from the analysis of the gas samples would be helpful in making a quantitative estimate of any possible depletion of the ozone layer. The results would also help in determining the extent of greenhouse warming which might have taken place and its future scenario. It is planned to conduct this balloon experiment at regular intervals so as to monitor the trace gases and to study the impact on the global warming and ozone depletion. While it is known that India's contribution to the anthropogenically produced emissions of these gases is very low but the climate over India could be affected because of the transport of such trace constituents from other regions of the world.

Closure of seismological offices in Himachal Pradesh

6013. SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some seismological offices which were installed 20 years back in Himachal Pradesh have since been closed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) No seismological observatory of the National Seismological Network has been closed. However, four out of ten special purpose seismological observatories set up in Himachal Pradesh on behalf of the Bhakra and Beas Management Board have been closed on their advice. Through the seismicity programme of Department of Science and Technology, Twelve observatories have been set up in Himachal Pradesh to supplement the observational activities of India Meteorological Department. Also, an array of fifty strong motion accelerographs has been established in Kangra region.

12.00 NOON

Papers laid on the Table

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 14-A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism Notification G.S.R. No. 117(E), dated the 25th February, 1994, publishing the Aircraft (Second Amend ment) Rules, 1994, alongwith an Explanatory Memorandum thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5754/94.]

The Deputy Chairman in the chair.

श्री सैयद सिब्ते रजी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदया, मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण मामला उठाना चाहता हूं...

उपसभापति: आज कालिंग अटेंशन है, आज के दिन जीरो अवर नहीं होगा; स्पेशल मैंशन भी नहीं होंगे, सिर्फ कालिंग